

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims as follows (the changes in these Claims are shown with ~~strike-through~~ for deleted matter and underlines for added matter). A complete listing of the claims with proper claim identifiers is set forth below.

1. (Currently amended) An optical arrangement comprising two parallel plates each with a through-hole forming defining an optical input/output with a given having an optical axis and an at least partly optical component placed between the plates, the at least partly optical component and a first plate of the two parallel plates comprising first fastening studs placed transversely opposite the first plate and connected by first bumps ~~made of~~ comprising a meltable material that when molten is able configured to selectively wet these the first fastening studs ~~in order~~ to optically align the at least partly optical component and the optical input/output of the first plate, and wherein the two parallel plates comprising further comprise second fastening studs placed transversely opposite the plate two parallel plates and connected by second bumps ~~made of~~ comprising a meltable material that when molten is able configured to selectively wet the second fastening studs ~~in order~~ to optically align the optical input/output inputs/outputs on the two parallel plates.
2. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least partially optical component comprises first and second optical components and wherein the second component residing between the first component and second plate, the second component and one of the plates having third fastening studs placed transversely opposite the plate and connected by third bumps a meltable material that when molten is able to selectively wet the third fastening studs in order to optically align the second component and the input/output on the plate to which it is fixed by the third bumps.
3. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the second component is fixed to the second plate by the third bumps.

4. (Currently amended) The optical arrangement according to claim 2 claim 1, wherein each meltable material is selected from a group comprising indium, tin-lead, indium-lead, silver-tin, antimony-tin and tin-silver-copper alloys.

5. (Currently amended) The optical arrangement according to claim 2 claim 1, wherein the first[[,]] and second[[,]] and third bumps comprise the same meltable material.

6. (Currently amended) The optical arrangement according to claim 2 claim 1, wherein the first[[,]] and second[[,]] and third fastening studs comprise a material selected from a group comprising copper, nickel, silver and gold.

7. (Currently amended) The optical arrangement according to claim 2 claim 1, wherein all of the fastening studs comprise the same material.

8. (Currently amended) The optical arrangement according to any claim 1, wherein the first plate and the component each have an electrical interconnection network, wherein the first fastening studs comprise metal and are connected to a respective one of the networks, and wherein the meltable material being comprises an electric conductor.

9. (Currently amended) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least one at least partly optical component comprises an optical filter.

10. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least one at least partly optical component comprises a variable optical attenuator.

11. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least one at least partly optical component comprises an electro-optic modulator.

12. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least one at least partly optical component comprises a wavelength-selective photodetector.

13. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least one at least partly optical component comprises an optically pumpable laser cavity.

14. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least one at least partly optical component comprises a micro-lens.

15. (Currently amended) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the first component is mounted at a distance of between 10 and 100 microns away from the first plate.

16. (Previously presented) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein each plate comprises silicon.

17. (Currently amended) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, further comprising a fibre engaged in at least one of the through-holes forming defining the optical input/output inputs/outputs.

18. (Currently amended) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the through-holes forming defining the optical input/output inputs/outputs is filled with a material that is transparent to light signals.

19. (Withdrawn) A production method for an arrangement comprising first and second plates and at least one at least partly optical component, the method comprising:

- (a) forming a hole designed to form an optical input/output in each of the first and second plates,

- (b) forming first fastening studs on the first plate and the component that are adapted to be selectively wetted by a meltable material whilst the area around the studs is much less wettable by the material, the first fastening studs being placed so that they can come into opposite relationship transversely of the first and second plates,
- (c) forming second fastening studs on the first and second plates that are adapted to be selectively wetted by a meltable material whilst the area around the studs is much less wettable by the material, the second fastening studs being placed so that they can come into opposite relationship transversely of the first and second plates,
- (d) placing disks made of the meltable material that can selectively wet the first fastening studs between the first fastening studs that are temporarily melted in order to passively align the component and the hole in the first plate,
- (e) placing disks made of the meltable material that can selectively wet the second fastening studs between the second fastening studs that are temporarily melted in order to passively align the holes in the plates.

20. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 19, further comprising forming third fastening studs on one of the first and second plates and a second component that are adapted to be selectively wetted by a meltable material whilst the area around the third fastening studs is much less wettable by the material, the third studs being placed so that they can come into opposite relationship transversely of the plate and, before the first and second plates are aligned with each other, placing disks made of the meltable material that can selectively wet the third fastening studs between the first and second plates that are temporarily melted in order to passively align the second component and the hole in the plate.

21. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 20, wherein the third fastening studs are formed on the at least one optical component and the second plate.

22. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 19, wherein the disks comprise the same material.

23. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 20, wherein the first, second, and third fastening studs comprise the same material.